

Appendix A - claim mark-up

41. (Amended) A system for processing financial institution documents comprising:

a multitude of compact [full-] image processing units communicatively coupled together to form a network, each of the [full] image processing units comprising:

an input receptacle for receiving financial institution documents;

an [a full] image scanner;

a discrimination unit;

a transport mechanism coupled to the input receptacle adapted to receive the documents from the input receptacle and transport the documents past [a full] the image scanner and [a] the discrimination unit;

an output receptacle adapted to receive the documents from the transport mechanism after the documents have been transported past the [full] image scanner and discrimination unit;

the [full] image scanner being adapted to obtain [full video] images of the documents, the scanner further being adapted to optically recognize fields within the documents and to automatically extract information from the fields;

the discrimination unit including an authenticator adapted to automatically determine the authenticity of the documents [; a controller coupled to the full image scanner]; and

an interface [coupled to the controller and] adapted to automatically communicate with an outside accounting system, the outside accounting system being adapted to update financial accounts associated with the documents substantially immediately without human intervention.

44. (Amended) The system of claim 41, further comprising a communications panel adapted to communicate operational instructions [from the controller] to a user.

45. (Amended) The system of claim 41, wherein the outside accounting system is adapted for storing, tracking, and

analyzing the information transmitted over the network from the [full-] image processing units.

49. (Amended) The system of claim 41, wherein the multitude of units are located at teller windows [, retailers, and financial institutions].

51. (Amended) A system for processing financial institution documents comprising:

a multitude of image processing units communicatively coupled together to form a network, the units processing financial institution documents deposited by users, each of the units comprising:

an input receptacle for receiving financial institution documents;

an [a full] image scanner;

a transport mechanism coupled to the input receptacle adapted to receive the documents from the input receptacle and transport the documents past the [full] image scanner;

an output receptacle adapted to receive the documents from the transport mechanism after being transported past the [full] image scanner;

the [full] image scanner being adapted to obtain [full video] images of the documents, the scanner further being adapted to optically recognize fields within the documents and to automatically extract information from the fields [; a controller coupled to the full image scanner]; and

an interface adapted to communicate the information contained in selected areas of the document to an outside accounting system [, the interface coupled to the controller] wherein [deposits and withdrawals from personalized] financial accounts [in the accounting system] associated with the documents are processed automatically substantially immediately.

56. (Amended) The system of claim 51, further comprising a teller window monitor coupled to the [controller] image processing unit.